BENGALURU, SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 16 Pages PRICE ₹4

Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 28 | Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain | Sensex 52,907 | Nifty 15,7 ,250 | Silver 65,000 | Dollar 71.01 | Euro 82.26 | GBP 95.37

GARBAGE TRENDS

Disposing of trash might be a costly affair soon

PAGE 5

PLAYING WITH FIRE

Nagarabhavi firemen put up with leaky roof, faulty electric connection

PAGE 3

Petition to Lokayukta seeks action against officials responsible for encroachment of an entire waterbody now classified as disused

LOCKALAKE!

KAUSHIK JN

10 acres and 23 guntas of Ittamadu Lake land encroached

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The controversy around the brazen encroachment of Ittamadu Lake refuses to die.

It is the primary responsibility of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to conserve, preserve and protect waterbodies in its jurisdiction.

If the encroachment of Ittamadu Lake land is any indication, it seems as though the BBMP has turned a blind eye towards the people responsible for the encroachment of Ittamadu Lake land worth crores of rupees.

At the moment, the Ittamadu Lake encroachment issue is before the Karnataka Lokayukta. Social activist Sai Datta lodged a complaint with the Karnataka Lokayukta on June 22, 2022, seeking action against the officials for failing to discharge their duties and prevent encroachment of Ittamadu Lake land.

According to the documents available with Bangalore Mirror, 10 acres and 23 guntas of Ittamadu Lake land have been encroached.

"I came to know that the entire lake land was encroached; the status of the waterbody is classified as a disused lake. I request you to take measures for the restoration of the lake in the interest of Bengaluru," said Sai Datta in the letter.

Datta appealed to the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

> **"Terming lakes as dead or disused without proper scientific study or consulting experts is not justified**
>
> — Vinod Jacob, Namma Bengaluru Foundation

Emission impossible for BMTC

Transport corporation operates 2,350 BS-III buses manufactured and procured between 2006 and 2013

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In an affidavit before the National Green Tribunal in December last year, the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) had committed to replace 1,033 BS-III (Bharat Stage III) buses by the end of March this year with BS-VI or electric vehicles.

However, as of June 15, 2022, BMTC still had 2,350 BS-III emission norms-compliant buses plying on the roads. These buses were manufactured and procured between 2006 and 2013. Moreover, as many as 3,797 BS-IV emission norms-compliant buses are plying as of June 15, 2022 and these were manufactured and purchased between 2011 and 2020.

According to the 'Revised Action Plan for Control of Air Pollution in Bengaluru' prepared by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), BMTC was to phase out all BS-III buses by June 2019. The corporation, in principle, follows the practice of scrapping buses, which have covered 8.5 lakh km or 11 years of operation, whichever is earlier.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »

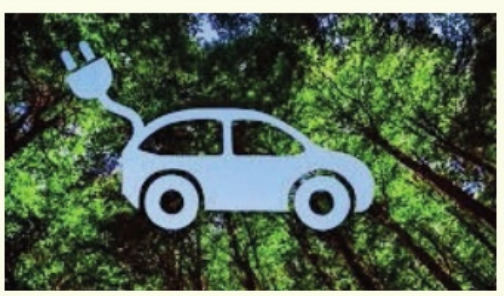
3 THINGS TO DO

01 Lock the box

Bookchor, an online bookstore for pre-owned books, is hosting 'LockTheBox Reloaded,' a one-of-a-kind book sale in which you don't have to pay for individual books; instead, you pay for a box and take home as many books as you can fit into the box. The event will have over 10 lakh books to choose from across genres such as fiction, non-fiction, crime, romance, books for young adults and children, adventure, science fiction, and much more. Bibliophiles can choose from three different sizes of boxes named after Greek mythology heroes: The Odysseus box, Perseus Box, and the biggest and the mightiest, the Hercules box. **Where: Shubh Convention, JP Nagar; When: Till July 3, 9 am – 10 pm Contact: 8683811218**

02 Puns and more

Catch stand-up comedian Rajesh Hinduja perform live. Describing himself as the oldest and boldest comedian in the country, he has done hundreds of shows with leading comedians in various cities. That is why, you can be assured of forgetting all your worries and having a whale of a time. The jokes will be about the past and the present, true stories and some untrue ones, all guaranteed to make you laugh. **Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar When: July 2; Tickets: bookmyshow.com**



03 EV talk

Folks, check out the 3rd International Green Vehicle Expo. The expo will showcase the entire/ complete range of technology and products ranging across electrical vehicles and hybrid vehicle industry and will ensure to be an excellent one stop destination to explore new business tie-ups, engage with the industry experts and find future business partners.
Where: Bangalore International Exhibition Centre When: July 1 – 3

Classrooms are empty as tiny tots fall sick

Attendance levels drop as many kids are down with fever; others stay home because of rise in cases

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It's a sight teachers are all too familiar with, and not a happy one at that. Empty classrooms and low attendance in schools is once again being reported, especially in kindergarten to primary school kids. According to management, children in these classes are either sick with fever and cold or are being kept home by anxious parents.

"The average attendance in the school has gone down by three to four per cent. Many parents are worried about the rising cases of Covid-19 and now the change in the climate has added to their panic. As a result, students are applying for leave. This ratio we see more in the younger student groups, especially from kindergarten to Grade 2," said Latha Devi Karri, principal, Orchids International School.

The majority of these cases are of fever, and cough and they settle down in two-three days.

Health experts say younger kids have low immunity due to staying home all these months

Schools say while there are such cases being reported, it is expected around this time of the year.

"While children are taking breaks, they are joining back as well. Many of our children recently went through the RT-PCR test after a mild fever, but all the results were negative. While the attendance is low, it is not as bad as the situation during one of the last waves," said Ramitha Ramachandran, principal, School of India.

Many have put in place a system for parents to send their kids to school with all the medicines along with the prescription and proper directions, only if the doctor permits the child.

"We maintain well-sanitised premises and keep the classrooms well ventilated. We have advised the parents to send healthy homemade food for lunch, lots of fruits and nuts for snacks, and whole milk every day at home as these food items help in improving immunity," informed Karri.

While the schools are following covid SoP as laid down by the government, there is a growing concern about the unvaccinated lot.

Teachers who are sick at home are using smart boards to teach

Although we have SOPs prepared in case any student falls sick and have trained nurses and a well-stocked infirmary on the premises to take care of such cases, we are not forcing parents to send these kids for offline classes. Younger children are unvaccinated and thus we are extra careful, said the principal of another city-based private school.

In such cases, smart boards are being used to impart lessons online. "Some of our teachers fell sick with mild temperatures. However, they still continued to take classes through smart boards. As of now, it is not bad," said Ramachandran.

Health experts say they are witnessing rising cases of viral infections in children going back to school, especially in line with the season in Bengaluru.

"First-time schoolers who are in the age group of 3 and 6 years, are most vulnerable as they are being exposed to interpersonal interactions after a long time. Also, their immunity levels are low as they have been staying at home. Gastrointestinal issues are also on a rise in children due to consumption of outside food," said Dr Sujatha Thyagarajan, Aster RV Hospital.

The moody blues? Blame the flu!

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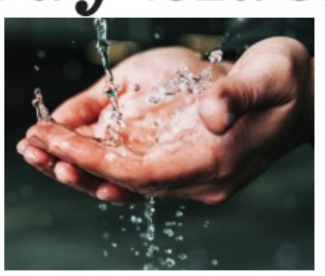
If you have a fever, cough or runny nose, it may not be symptoms of Covid. City doctors now say that upper respiratory tract infections and viral infections have made a comeback due to cloudy weather and intermittent rainfall.

Doctors also point figures towards Human parainfluenza viruses (HPIVs), adenovirus and common flu for the illness around this time. Dr Aashish Seethanadi (Consultant Nephrologist at NU Hospitals) said that seasonal influenza spreads easily. The rapid transmission is seen in crowded areas including schools and nursing homes. The virus can also be spread by hands contaminated with influenza viruses. To prevent transmission,



people should cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing, and wash their hands regularly."

Doctors say that adults need to be careful when there are kids around. Dr Saravanan R (Consultant- Neonatology, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Bannerghatta Road) said that if adults have flu or symptoms, it is better to limit the exposure to kids. "People with flu are most contagious in the first three to four days after their illness begins. The flu virus can live on hard surfaces for 24 hours. Wipe door knobs, tables, and other surfaces in your home with hydrogen peroxide, rubbing alcohol, detergent, or iodine-based antiseptics."

Dos and don'ts

- Follow respiratory hygiene
- Wear mask while going to crowded places and public transport
- Yearly flu shots for those >65 years and those with heart, lung and kidney disease
- Frequently wash hands
- Stay hydrated and rest well
- Avoid touching face, nose and eyes
- Avoid antibiotics during viral flu
- Avoid close contact with people with symptoms
- Antibiotics are not effective against viral infections.

Watch out for these signs

If your child has a fever greater than 101°F (38°C) for more than two days, or a fever of 104°F (40°C) or higher any time seems unusually drowsy or lethargic, wheezing or is short of breath, consult a doctor. Infants (younger than 1 year) tend to get dehydrated easily; hence monitor the urine output and watch for dryness of the tongue and if the child is dull. In viral related flu, usually, the kids become active once the fever has settled with medications. If the kid is dull even in between fever spikes the possibility of other dangerous viral infections like dengue or viral encephalitis has to be considered.

Shocker at fire station

Firemen of Nagarabhavi have to deal with leaky roof, faulty electric connections

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Damp walls reveal the sorry state of the Nagarabhavi Fire Station

Around 16 Fire and Emergency Services personnel have been facing a lot of problems due to a leaky roof and faulty electrical connection at the Nagarabhavi Fire Station at Jnanabharathi Campus near Rajarajeshwari Nagar. The firemen, who are supposed to attend emergency calls during monsoon in Bengaluru, have no one to attend to their problems. And what is more, it has been this way for more than three years.

Whenever it rains heavily, the fire station's roof starts leaking and the fire and emergency personnel have to depend on their mobile phones or candles at night as they do not want to switch on lights. They said some of them suffered electric shocks when they switched on the lights.

Nagarbhavi Fire Station has been functioning in a small 35-year-old building vacated by Jnanabharathi Police Station in 2016 after it got a new building inside Bengaluru University campus. The fire station attends fire calls received from areas up to Sumanahalli on Magadi Road, Uttarahalli, Kambipura and areas on Mysore Road, including an industrial cluster on Doddaladamara Road, BHEL and Nayandahalli and other nearby areas.

It is said the fire station was opened at Jnanabharathi Campus to attend fire calls within the campus in summer. "We attend many fire calls inside Jnanabharathi campus during summer. There will be hardly any fire calls in monsoon," said a fire station officer.

The fire station has two fire tenders and one Agni Bullet Motorbike and around 16 firemen, including fire officers.

Residents of Rajarajeswari Nagar have demanded that the Fire and Emergency Services Department either renovate the existing building or find a suitable location to relocate the fire station.

> **We sent a proposal to repair the roof and replace wires to higher-ups. We are also looking for a spot for a new building**
> –Nanje Gowda, district fire officer

"Since the area is huge and we do not have multiple fire stations nearby. The fire tenders have to rush from other fire stations in support of Nagarabhavi Fire Station. The government must ensure a proper building and infrastructure for Nagarabhavi Fire Station on par with Rajajinagar or Banashankari Fire Stations," said a resident of the area.

According to the resident, huge commercial buildings and apartment complexes have mushroomed in the vicinity. "Since the number of commercial buildings has been increasing in and around RR Nagar, the need of the hour is to strengthen Nagarabhavi Fire Station to avoid depending on fire tenders from Rajaji Nagar, Peenya, Banashankari or from other areas," the resident said.

Many in the area said that relocating the Nagarabhavi Fire Station to near a water source would be apt. As of now, the Nagarabhavi Fire Station has no water source, except a bore well. It has to depend on treated water from a sewage treatment plant near Nayandahalli.

Emphasising on the need to have a proper building for the fire station, Niveditha Sunkad of RR Nagar I Care said the Fire and Emergency Services Department must renovate the existing building or construct a new building.

Expressing similar opinion, Antony D'Souza, a resident of RR Nagar, suggested that the Nagarabhavi Fire Station be relocated to RR Nagar.

"There are many vacant plots belonging to the state government and the BBMP for constructing a fire station here," said D'Souza.

Nanje Gowda, District Fire Officer of Nagarabhavi Fire Station said that measures were being taken to replace old electric wires to prevent electric shocks during monsoon. "We sent a proposal to repair the roof and replace electric wires to higher authorities. We are also looking for a suitable place to construct a new building to relocate this fire station," he said.

Another pub in soup for serving to minors

Bar in Electronic City in dock after police find its cashier handing over beer bottles to teen

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The Church Street Social pub in Central Bengaluru was recently raided, and its owner, manager, and bartenders were booked under various sections of the Karnataka Excise Act, 1965, and the Karnataka Police Act, 1963. This is because the popular pub was found serving and selling liquor to underaged people.

However, this incident did not lead to other bars keeping their guard up.

On June 26, the City Police Commissioner had ordered all police stations in the commissionerate to keep a strict vigil on bars, restaurants, pubs, and wine-shops within their respective jurisdictions to see if they were serving or selling liquor to people aged below 21. They were also ordered to take strict legal action against those violating the laws.

Based on the orders of the Police Commissioner, the Electronic City police, who had vague information that a few bars and restaurants in their jurisdiction could be serving liquor to underaged people, conducted a drive by sending policemen in mufti to the locations. The Police Inspector of Electronic City police station engaged ASI Srinivas, Santosh, a head constable, and Nagendra V - a police constable for this duty, and sent them to those bars on Wednesday.

ASI Srinivas was moving around inside Akshaya Bar and Restaurant on Bettadasanapura Main Road at 5:25 pm. He observed that the cashier was handing over beer bottles to a boy who looked like he was in his teens. Srinivas approached the cashier and asked the boy how old he was, to which he replied he was sixteen and had a party to attend with his friend.

Srinivas learnt that the boy is a resident of Doddathoguru and once again confirmed his age before seizing the liquor bottles.

> **Police Commissioner had ordered all police stations in the commissionerate to keep a strict vigil on bars, restaurants, pubs, and wine-shops within their respective jurisdictions**

Later, the CCTV footage was collected, after which the cashier of the bar, Suresh (20), a resident of Mandya, was picked up for questioning. While Suresh was questioned, he blurted out that his owner Kumar BJ had instructed the bar staff to serve and sell liquor to anyone who comes in.

Based on the ASI's complaint, Suresh and Kumar BJ have been booked under appropriate sections of the Karnataka Excise Act, 1965 and Juvenile Justice Act (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015.

"The minor boy has been left alone and his parents and his friend's parents have been informed. A case has been registered against the cashier and the owner of the bar," said a senior police officer.

IN BRIEF

West Bengaluru gets its first tree park

Western Bengaluru got its first tree park as Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai inaugurated one at Machohalli, off Magadi Road. This tree park has come up on an area of 94 acres. The works on renovating this tree park was on for the last few years.

It was delayed due to the outbreak of covid and the forest department is planning to open this tree park to the public soon. Ananya R, a resident of Sunkadakatte said, "As kids, we have grown up hearing that there are two major lung spaces in the city -- Cubbon Park or Lalbagh. However, not everyone can go to these places every day. Now, we can look forward to spending quality time at this tree park."

Inaugurating the tree park, Bommai said, the state budget has an exclusive Ecological Budget of Rs100 crore for the first time. "It would be used to offset the ecological deficit or loss that is happening. The Forest Department has been instructed to formulate an action plan to implement the plan to offset the ecological deficit on an annual basis. An annual outlay of Rs 100 cr would be provided for the purpose,"he said, asking the department to increase the forest cover in the state from the present 21 to 30%.

The CM instructed the Forest Department officials to chalk out a special programme to create green cover around Bengaluru through afforestation and developing more tree parks.

The next tree park is likely to be inaugurated at JB Kaval. However, the greens have stepped up pressure against converting the JB Kaval forest into a tree park. Despite opposition, the Horticulture Department is getting ready to develop the park in JB Kaval. Jarakabande Kaval is one of the remaining very limited reserve forests in the city and is the only lung space near the city in Bengaluru North. – **Sridhar Vivan**

Bail to lawyer who killed wife's 'stalker'

The Karnataka High Court on Friday granted bail to an advocate who killed his wife's stalker in a scuffle. The advocate's defence lawyer argued that the killing was a result of self-defence as he, his wife and child were attacked by the stalker and his accomplice. Mahendra L, an advocate from Bommasandra, approached the court for bail after his plea was rejected by the trial court.

Mahendra, his wife Nandini and two-year-old child were in a fight with Santhosh Kumar, a techie was the landlord's son who returned after a stint in France in January 2022 for trying to stalk Nandini. On April 13, Santhosh and an accomplice Arun are said to have landed at Nandini's house. Mahendra opened the door and a fight started. After getting beaten by Mahendra, the duo ran away but were hospitalised. Santhosh recovered but Arun succumbed to the injuries. —**PTI**

Long road to restoration: 10 years and counting

Despite funds allocation, work on Mestripalya lake is never-ending

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The Mestripalya Lake, located close to Koramangala, has been taken up for rejuvenation that is moving at an excruciating pace. Residents of the area have been pushing for work on the water body to occur fast for 10 years now, but in vain.

The area had encroachments which were cleared out.

While the lake was initially under Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), the department did not carry out work completely, leaving it unfinished. The residents then asked for the lake's responsibility to be transferred to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Lake Department.

Following government orders, it was transferred to the BBMP soon after, but sanctioning of funds and even the actual work was delayed. The residents pointed out that Rs 3 crore was allotted for the lake under BDA initially, after which another Rs 4 crore was given.

While BBMP officials claim that the work has been completed, people state that there is a lot of unfinished work. Work has reportedly been stopped altogether at the location now.

Mestripalya Lake is located close to Koramangala, and has been facing delay in rejuvenation work for 10 years now

> **"As of yesterday, BBMP has said that they have finished the work. We are filing a rejoinder as there are many pending things**
> –Vijay Menon, Koramangala resident

A resident of Koramangala, Vijay Menon, said, "As of yesterday, BBMP has said that they have finished the work. We are filing a rejoinder as there are many pending things. It is the third round of funding and work hasn't been completed yet. For example. the external and internal fencing around the water body is not finished. This can lead to encroachments. Additionally, on the external side, where the water flows out, there is encroachment at the storm water drain. If the water flows, it could lead to over flooding and residential localities close-by can be flooded."

Vinod Jacob from Namma Bengaluru Foundation said, "This lake has been in this state for more than five years. The pace of work is really slow even though the funds have been allocated long ago. The lake bund needs repair and the storm water drains need cleaning. If the drains are connected properly there will be no water logging during monsoons in nearby areas. The walking track has to be built again too."

Street vendors or pedestrians: Who are footpaths for?

Most city hawkers are unaware of legal provisions allowing their activities

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Residents and pedestrians from several areas of Bengaluru are complaining about the reduced mobility of footpaths as they continue being blocked by street vendors.

Ashok K, a resident of Mahadevapura, said, "In the Panathur area, the footpaths are almost completely encroached upon by hawkers and their stalls. Pedestrians are forced to walk on the road during high traffic, which is dangerous for children and senior citizens."

The state of footpaths in the city have been an object of criticism for a long time. With road construction work taking place in several areas, many footpaths are broken or littered with debris. Pedestrians fuming over street vendors and parked vehicles that block roads only add to the problems.

Footpaths are often bustling in the city, but usually not with pedestrians

A resident from Banashankari said that he had complained to the traffic police several times about the issue.

"I do not want to create problems in their business which they work hard for, but there should be some kind of regulation too. It can be a nuisance for people when there is no space on the roads. Near 2nd Stage, many footpaths are blocked," they said.

Piyush Kumar, another resident, said, "Near the Pattandur Agrahara road, vendors and tea stalls have taken over the footpaths. I have tried to complain about this to the traffic police as well as the BBMP, but no action has been taken. There is no space for us to walk on. What are footpaths for?"

The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act of 2014 regulates vendors in public areas and protects their rights to operate. However, out of the 1.5 lakh street vendors in the city, hardly 20,000 have a license.

Mohammed Javeed, President of All India Street Vendors Public and Charitable Trust, said that many vendors in the city are unaware of this legal provision.

"They do not know their own rights, which is why many of them have no license. There were complaints like this arising in Jayanagar where we took action and got licenses for as many vendors as possible. According to the Act, vendors have a right to operate on streets as long as it's not causing any hindrance to the public and traffic. We will be looking into the matter," said Javeed.

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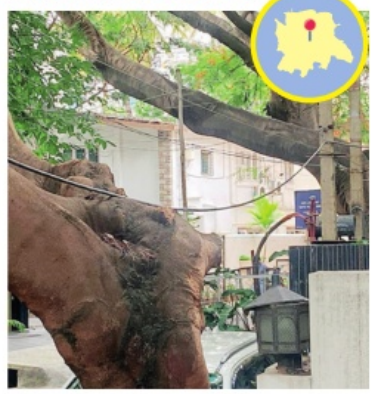
Unsafe work
Brunton Cross Road



There are electric cables resting on a tree in Brunton Cross Road. Shoddy work by BESCOM.

Stagnant water
Shampur

For the last 15 days, there has been a drainage problem in Shampur, near Parveen Masjid Road. There is stagnant water.

BBMP, take note
Indiranagar

This is what is happening behind Indiranagar Metro Station. BBMP attention is needed.

The last-mile gap that can't be bridged

BMTC's initiative to introduce feeder buses runs into glitches

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To make last-mile connectivity more efficient, BMTC is planning to run 15-minute bus services from ORR to nearby areas that will integrate buses as part of the multi-modal public transport system. However, the project faces delay as they don't have those types of buses in India.

For a long time, citizens have been asking for small feeder buses that could effectively provide last-mile connections for public transport. Several citizens, while wanting to shift to more sustainable and economical travel options like the Metro, choose not to owing to rocketing costs of meeting last-mile connectivity.

BMTC also has its eyes on e-buses that will ply on the routes

"BMRCL has been asking us to run feeder buses and DULT has been raising issue about gaps in last-mile connectivity. We have asked BMRCL to fund 200 crores to purchase the buses. But the challenge is we don't have the right buses for Bengaluru's narrower roads. Even our 9m buses will not fit the criteria. We have identified some 6m buses that could work. We are planning to import these buses," said BMTC Director AV Surya Sen.

We are also primarily looking at 6m electric low-floor buses with 12-15 seats and few standing spaces as well. Each trip will be roughly 10-15 minutes on a 5-km loop. Two buses will run continuously from morning till evening on the same route, he added.

> **We have asked BMRCL to fund Rs 200 crore to purchase these buses but the challenge is that we have to import them**
>
> –AV Surya Sen, BMTC Director

However, before purchasing the entire fleet, BMTC wants to run a pilot test. After purchasing 10-20 buses, they will run across three-four locations to assess the viability of this project.

According to BMTC officials, the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) has agreed to cover the difference between revenue and cost to run the pilot. However, BMTC is still waiting to import the vehicle to start the pilot project.

BMTC's green initiative to lean on electric buses is also making the project cost-intensive. For BMTC to purchase 500 buses, they will need at least Rs 200 crore.

"For the pilot project, we are asking for 20 buses and we have asked DULT if we need to buy on contract or purchase them. If we buy on contract, DULT will only cover the contracting charges but we buy without contract, then DULT will support us in the purchase," added Sen.

However, DULT clarified that they have only agreed to cover the viability costs.

DULT Commissioner V Manjula said, "We are in conversation with BMTC to run a pilot on HSR layout as part of a demand from Sustainable Mobility Accord (SuMA) HSR project. The proposal was to run 9m shuttle buses to get more people on board buses and meet last-mile connectivity. We have agreed to meet the difference between revenue and expenses for BMTC to run the pilot but we won't be purchasing the buses."

Disposing trash might be a costly affair, soon

Bengalureans are already paying garbage cess but now there are plans to impose user fee for garbage collection as well

BBMP says the user fee will cover garbage collection, transportation & processing

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You may soon have to pay more for disposing of your garbage as Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited is planning to impose a user fee for every household/ commercial establishment (except bulk generators). Though the fee is yet to be fixed, the civic body is determined to collect the fee shortly.

BBMP's Special Commissioner (SWM) Harish Kumar said, "The National Green Tribunal and the Solid Waste Management rules specify that user fee is mandatory. "The proposal to collect the user fee will be placed before the next board meeting."

However, the idea to collect user fees has been met with stiff resistance as Bengalureans are already paying garbage cess along with the property tax. Kumar said, "Garbage cess and user fee are two different subjects. Currently, we are collecting Rs 60 crore as garbage cess via property tax. The garbage cess is imposed to keep the public roads and toilets cleaner while the user fee is to recover the charges for garbage collection, transportation and processing. Even if we were collecting Rs 60 crore, we are spending close to Rs 500 crore every year for garbage disposal."

Criticising the idea, Satish S, who works as a bike mechanic said, "If BBMP claims that it is collecting cess to keep the city roads clean, where are these clean roads? In that case, the BBMP should refund the cess. Secondly, it also mentions clean toilets. Now, we know very well how well the toilets are maintained."

Kumar said, "The user fee details are yet to be finalised. We are planning to have slabs where the economically weaker section should not pay more than Rs 50 per month."

He said that bulk generators will not be imposed a user fee as their waste will not be collected from the company. "The bulk generators have to coordinate with private contractors directly for waste processing and collection. From the company, we will fix a ceiling of maximum price beyond which, the contractor cannot charge the bulk generator. In such a case of discrepancy, the bulk generators can complain and we will take action," he said.

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Class congestion: School rush hour chokes roads

Ever-ongoing construction work in various areas adds up to traffic jams near schools

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Instead of using school or public transport many parents choose to pick their kids up themselves in their private vehicles increasing the number of vehicles on roads

The early morning and afternoon rush is back on the streets of Bengaluru with schools reopening. Certain areas that are more populated with schools, such as Residency Road, St Marks Road, JP Nagar, and Jayanagar, are especially affected by congestion.

Vinaya K, a resident of JP Nagar, told BM, "There are two schools near my home. Around 3 pm, when I go to the gym, I see flocks of parents on their bikes and cars coming to pick up kids from the nearby school. It is a comparatively narrow road that becomes a mess every afternoon these days." The city is already infamous for its traffic. Along with the ever-ongoing road construction in areas like Indiranagar, and stretches ridden with potholes, schools reopening have become a new contributor to increasing congestion.

Many parents choose to pick their children up themselves, instead of opting for school or public transport, increasing the number of private vehicles on the streets in the process. A traffic home guard on Residency Road said that congestion is at its peak between 8-9 am, and around 2-3 pm, with afternoons being worse. Apart from this, the roads are also congested around 5 in the evening when office-goers leave for their homes, accompanied by children returning from extra-curricular activities. "In this area, there are also stores and offices. An already busy road gets worse during the afternoon when the schools get over," the guard said.

At this time, the road can be seen filled with flocks of school children trying to cross busy streets with their parents, and big yellow buses stuck on the road waiting for traffic to move. There are parents anxiously trying to get through the traffic snarls while their children clutch them tightly from the back seat of two-wheelers. Auto-rickshaw drivers who regularly move around the area are also the ones getting affected by the afternoon rush.

Mohammed Sabbir, an auto driver who usually operates around MG Road and St Marks Road, said, "Sometimes it takes 20 minutes or even more for a short distance of 1.5 km. The traffic is especially slow between 1 pm to 3 pm. We often refuse to go near the school zones around this time, but some auto drivers ask for extra money. The area is jam-packed and you cannot avoid it."

> **"We are trying to cooperate with the school authority and management to tide over the situation**
> – Savitha S, DCP Traffic, North Division

Savitha S, DCP Traffic for North Division, said, "Traffic has increased as many parents have started dropping off their children in their vehicles instead of public transport due to increasing Covid cases. We are trying to cooperate with the school management and authorities to tide over the situation. We have provided them with an advisory to have separate parking as well."

Other areas like Basavanagudi are also facing the issue. Commuters feel that the traffic police should focus on school zones during rush hours.

Colder weekend ahead

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For the last few days, the city has been receiving rainfall while the temperature has dropped considerably. Now, the Meteorological department has predicted very light to moderate rains likely over the BBMP area for the next two days.

The City's maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 28 and 20 degrees Celsius respectively. Meanwhile, widespread moderate to heavy rains with isolated very heavy showers are likely over Coastal Karnataka districts. Malnad districts will have scattered to widespread very light to moderate rains with isolated heavy rains likely. Scattered to widespread very light to moderate rains with isolated heavy rains likely over NIK and SIK districts.

Moderate rainfall is expected in the Chikkaballapur and Ramanagara districts and scattered very light to light rains are likely over the remaining districts of the region.

In the North Interior, very light to moderate rains with isolated heavy rains are likely over Ballari, Koppal, Bagalkot, Raichur and Belagavi districts. Scattered to widespread very light to moderate rains with isolated heavy rains likely over Chikkamagaluru, Kodagu, Hassan and Shivamogga districts while heavy rains with isolated very heavy rains likely over Udupi, Dakshina Kannada and Uttara Kannada districts.

Once there was a lake here

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lokayukta to take action against BBMP chief commissioner, deputy commissioner of Bengaluru Urban, commissioner of Land Survey & Land Settlement department, tahsildar of Bengaluru South taluk and BBMP chief engineer (lakes) for dereliction of duty.

The encroachment

The area of the lake is spread over 10 acres and 23 guntas out which three acres and 34 guntas was developed as a layout; one acre and 12 guntas of the lake land was used to construct a road, four acres and 24 guntas is open land and 37 guntas was used for constructing a stormwater drain.

"It is quite shocking to know that Ittamadu Lake land was completely encroached. Lake land cannot be used for other purposes since once it is declared as a lake it will remain only as a lake. It is shocking to come across the apathy of the authorities concerned. These officials are not following directions from courts as well as the Chief Minister," said V Ramprasad, co-founder of Friends of Lakes.

Vinod Jacob of Namma Bengaluru Foundation said lakes should not be encroached as they are precious waterbodies which retain the groundwater level in the city. "Terming lakes as dead or disused without proper scientific study or consulting water experts is not justified," said Jacob.

Stating Ittamadu as a classic example of how lakes are being targeted to be converted to real estate terming them as dead or disused, Vinod Jacob said the lakes are natural tanks and will protect the city from flooding during monsoons.

"If these lakes are connected properly and encroachments removed from their water inlets and outlets, they will spring back to life. Lakes have to be protected as they are very important biodiverse ecological bodies critical for the city's survival," he said.

It is not the case that Bengaluru Urban district authorities did nothing to clear the encroachments on Ittamadu Lake land. In April 2015, the then deputy commissioner V Shankar visited the lake to initiate action to clear the encroachments but in vain.

When informed about the complaint to Lokayukta seeking action against the officials, including deputy commissioner of Bengaluru Urban district, J Manjunath, the deputy commissioner of Bengaluru Urban District said Ittamadu Lake is in the BBMP's custody. "It is the responsibility of local bodies, including the BBMP, to preserve, protect and conserve waterbodies under their jurisdiction or custody. The BBMP lakes department has to avail services of tahsildars allotted exclusively for the BBMP. As far as clearing encroachments of waterbodies under Bengaluru Urban District is concerned, we have taken measures at more than 120 lakes. Our drive against encroachments is continuing," said Manjunath.

Meanwhile, BBMP chief engineer (lakes) said he has written to Bengaluru South tahsildar requesting to clear the encroachments at the Ittamadu Lake.

Tender, loving care

How an NGO charts course of life for orphaned and abandoned young

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Many children run away from home at a young age as they are put to arduous tasks by desperate families

Pradeep was a 11-year-old boy, a Class 7 student, when he was rescued by Bosco staff from the Bengaluru Railway station nine years ago when he had run away from his relatives in Shivamogga district, and had come to the city in search of work. The NGO staff, on further inquiry, found out that he had no one to take care of him back at home.

Pradeep was counselled by a staff and then taken back to Shivamogga where they did the Home Study Report - a report containing details of the family of foster carer/ parent, opting for individual or group foster care. The Yuvodaya staff spoke to his relatives, and the child - Pradeep was handed over to his maternal uncle.

According to the report, Pradeep is a resident of Shikaripura in Shivamogga. He lost his parents - his father to an accident and his mother to health ailments, leaving him in the care of his grandmother and maternal uncle. Though surrounded by family members, Pradeep never felt like he really belonged there, and though a Class 7 student, according to him he was not allowed to live the life of a child at his house.

His family would send him to work at the fields, and on most days, he would come home to the scolding and beatings of his aunt. One day, after a fight with his aunt, Pradeep ran away from his house and came to Bengaluru for work when he was picked by the NGO staff who look for run-away children at railway stations. Though the NGO staffers had handed Pradeep over to his maternal uncle, he was just not ready to go back to the same environment he once used to hate. He left home once again and came back to BOSCO Yuvodaya and requested the staff that he would want to continue his education. Respecting his decision to study, Pradeep was placed in Bosco Vikas with the permission of the Child Welfare Committee.

The boy was then enrolled in the eighth standard at St Joseph's college, and then later placed with a foster family after being counselled and prepared for the change. Pradeep was then transferred to the Sri Rama Mandira School in ninth standard and finished his SSLC successfully. He went on to complete his PUC at a government college in Chamrajpet, and passed the exams successfully with a second class.

He is at present doing his first year BA at a government college in Yediyur, in Bengaluru while working part-time with a food-delivery portal. Pradeep and his foster parents are being presented to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) every six months. Pradeep is now 20 years old and is now settling into a good life with care of his loving and caring foster parents.

Pandemic's blow

Usually, every NGOs associated with welfare of the child would pick up orphaned or abandoned children and try to put them in foster care, but off late Bosco Yuvodaya had been engaged in identifying children who are badly affected by the pandemic and are dropping out of schools to work and leave their families, head to big towns for work. These children are picked up usually from railway and bus stations, counselled, and rehabilitated and once the NGO staff finds the actual family cannot take care of the child, then the further step is to find a suitable foster parents for the boy or girl, said a senior staffer from Bosco.

The NGO staff identifies deserving children and parents from all strata of the society. A total of around 260 potential parents were identified with the help of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI) members, Self-Help Groups (SHG) members, Angandwadi workers, mothers, ASHA workers, school teachers, and the public in 10 districts, among which 105 parents submitted their applications to the DCPO. After the identification, the team met the potential parents to make them understand the sole motive of the Foster Care Program. Bosco had conducted seven "Prospective Parents" meetings and 107 parents attended the meeting from Bengaluru, Mysuru, Yadgiri, and Ballari. The team conducted a home study report for 19 prospective parents in seven districts.

And to select prospective children and parents, there are procedures and reports to be submitted. These include home inquiry, references from neighbours, relatives, friends, collecting related documents like ID proof, birth certificate, marriage certificate, educational qualification. After the legal placement, follow-ups of the child and parents were done once a month through home visits, school visits, and visits to the neighbours and child's friends. Updated reports of the child were given to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) after each visit and follow-up. "The team has so far placed 19 children in eight districts and conducted 47 home visits, 29 school visits, and 20 phone follow-up for 19 children," said a Bosco staffer.

NGO helping kids who ran away from home to find work during pandemic

"The team has so far placed 19 children in eight districts and conducted 47 home visits, 29 school visits, and 20 phone follow-up for 19 children –Bosco staffer

RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

Write to him at c-rajmohan.sudhakar@timesgroup.com

Inherent Vice

The ground beneath our feet is slipping away. We ought to be really worried now in earnest and not let the standards in public life be methodically desecrated. Self-proclaimed 'sure-foots' are more than eager to tell you all is well. Truth is, they are walking on thin ice, like bullies on a frozen lake in early winter, at risk of drowning any moment; in their inexperience masked only by glee, intoxicated by unbridled ego and bravado of new-found power, they may very well take all of us down to the depths. The collective's silence on their violations is their safety net.

The world's largest democracy has morphed into a caricature of itself as the noblest of grievance redressal mechanisms are turning against the vulnerable citizen whom the constitutional framework is bound to safeguard.

That the state would not ensure bare necessities, something as basic as a sidewalk for pedestrians, or a properly asphalted road, while busy horse-trading MLAs and detaining critical voices eight years into the administration, but would rather pull a sheet over a pothole to mask the incompetence of an inept urban civic body during a dignitary's visit is unacceptable.

This festering apathy bordering neglect directed at the tax paying citizen's welfare coupled with the abject failure to even acknowledge their 'sorry' existence in a flailing economy plagued by unemployment and inflation-led uncertainties, is telling of the level of disarray that has made checks and balances in governance almost non-existent in the age of tech.

In this city, without an elected council, it takes the Prime Minister's visit to promise future urban infrastructure. This is preposterous. Why in the future and not now is perplexing. Just as cosmetic changes are falling terribly short to hold the facade of urbanity amidst crumbling civic infra in Bengaluru, rights of the citizens are blatantly trampled upon as accountability in public life becomes a joke on the electorate.

As aforementioned, the ground beneath our feet is literally sliding away. Newly laid paver blocks coming off footpaths is commonplace in Bengaluru, now even in the central business district as BM reported, knocking pedestrians off their rightful space.

The other day, BM ran a cover story on authorities blaming rodents for sidewalks sliding under pedestrians' feet. Experts BM spoke to said the contractor in question may not have laid a proper base for the tiles and as a result the footpath caved in along Nrupathunga Road.

Likewise, a few days ago, a barrage of stories highlighted the shoddy cvic infra across Bengaluru in the backdrop of the Prime Minister's visit. One even revealed how civic authorities covered up a bad stretch with sheets and so on. We know of walls erected at a moment's notice elsewhere to block slums and shanties from the view of visiting dignitaries. In Bengaluru, the eleventh hour scramble of the civic administration to asphalt its way to a 'smoke and mirrors' of robust urban infra did not yield as roads caved in the day after.

An oft-repeated phrase in such scenarios, when ominous shadows of suspicion are cast on the conduct and accountability of public servants, is 'standards in public life'. The phrase has been doing the rounds in Britain as premier Boris Johnson finds himself losing the trust of his constituents and Tory peers, from the time of the lockdown parties controversy, police inquiries, the Sue Grey report, the Tory confidence vote thereafter and in the recent by-election losses of the Conservative party.

There exists a 'Committee on Standards in Public Life' that advises the UK prime minister on ethical standards of public conduct, constituted in 1994. The committee has seven guiding principles for the public servant -- selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. If we were to institute such a committee in India, how many politicians here would adhere to even a single principle in the aforementioned list? On the contrary, for the keen political observer, what has been on unabashed display in the past eight or so years is the slow legitimisation, advocacy and flourish of the inherent vice in our social discourse.

Days ago, BM reported about a building by-law violation 'whistleblower' who was in turn served a demolition notice. Now, we also have the apex court's peculiar reference about the intention of the litigant who's seeking legal review, which has led to the detention of activist Teesta Setalvad and others. With the prolonged imprisonment of journalist Siddique Kappan, human rights defenders such as Umar Khalid and others, alongside the recent arrest of Alt News' Mohammed Zubair, what is the message being sent to the citizenry about free speech, free press, and more importantly jurisprudence, the last chance at justice for the ordinary citizen?

Will there come a time ever, when we refer our public servants to a 'standards in public life committee' for their transgressions?

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

CARPE DIEM!

A peacock dancing in full splendor at Bandipur Sanctuary.

The picture was clicked by reader **Shreya Oruganti**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Traffic, not just another bump in the road here

Dug-up portion of road in Kundalahalli causes snarls; pedestrians, commuters at risk of suffering accidents

Shreyashi Mukherjee
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For the residents of Kundalahalli, traffic snarls are an everyday affair, courtesy the dug-up strip at the centre of the road.

The commuters say that a portion of the road was dug up almost two months ago. Since then, a number of requests and complaints have been made to the concerned authorities. However, no action was taken.

Manav Shankar, a commuter, said, "It is causing a lot of problems for the people who travel by vehicles. We cannot use a car to cross because when we do, the car starts to shake over this jagged patch of road. It causes a lot of damage to the vehicle and is not safe as well."

The commuters say that because of the poor road condition, their vehicles suffer significant damages.

Rohith K, another commuter, added that the road was also extremely risky for two-wheelers. It is extremely difficult to maintain balance when we are going through that road. There was one time when I almost lost my balance and fell."

Traffic -- a common problem for Bengalureans -- keeps getting worse, especially at peak hours.

Another commuter said, "Since one part of the road is dug and has no space, people use the other side to commute. This has caused heavy traffic congestion on the other side of the road. And this happens every day. I have been stuck in this jam so many times for hours."

The commuters also say that the road is opposite CMRIT college and is very risky for college-going students. A lot of the students use bikes to commute, and they are often in a hurry to go to their classes. Hence, if they do not follow proper precaution while crossing this strip of road, then there are high chances of injuring themselves.

It's always a bumpy ride, say citizens

Bikers are at risk of skidding and pedestrians have often tripped and fallen, especially during rush hour

Even for pedestrians, this road is a menace. "That part of the road is bumpy and uneven. One day while going to class I was walking through this road, and I twisted my leg and it swelled up."

A BBMP official said, "We have informed the officials responsible and the patch will be

DID YOU KNOW?

The Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM), a constituent unit of the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), Ministry of Culture, Government of India, was established in memory of Bharat Ratna Sir M. Visvesvaraya.

The building, with a built-up area of 43,000 sq ft, was constructed in Cubbon Park. It houses various scientific experiments and engines, and was inaugurated by the first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, on 14 July 1962. The first gallery set up at VITM, on the theme of 'Electricity', was opened to the public on 27 July 1965.

In order to honour Bharat Ratna Sir M Visvesvaraya, the All-India Manufacturers Organization, Mysore State Board, decided to set up a science and technology museum at Bangalore, and the foundation stone was laid by Shri BD Jatti, Chief Minister of Mysore, on 15 September 1958, and now, the museum attracts nearly one million visitors a year.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Which is your favourite shopping destination in Bengaluru?

Dina Krishnan, BM Reader
My favorite place to shop is Reliance SMart, on Thanisandra Main Road. I find everything from groceries to utensils and more.

Pearl Sharma, Student
Phoenix Market City is the fanciest place I know. There's great food also and there's always a concert or event going on, so it's fun to attend.

Samhitha Saikaran, BM Reader
At Church Street, and Blossoms Bookstore, the vibe very different and you meet different people from different cultures. This street is pedestrian-friendly as well.

Yudhveer Singh, BM Reader
RMZ Galleria Mall is close to where I live and has two pubs and all essential requirements under one roof.

Sugandha K, Tattoo Artist
In Kamanahalli, I can find practically everything I need and it is a fun location for everyone.

Atrayee Chakraborthy, Student
Commercial Street has products ranging from shoes to clothes and even to the smallest hair clips and jewellery. For a student, it is extremely pocket-friendly.

Ishan Sood, Student
I like to shop at Commercial Street since it's the most affordable one-stop destination for students in a new city.

SPEAK TO US

How do you think we can create more ownership among citizens of the city?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Fight for our rights

Pourakarmikas protest at Freedom Park on Friday. They have been agitating for proper wages, support with kids' education, regular employment and housing

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

Debris dumpers caught in the act!

Bellandur police book six cases, seize six tractors, detain 10 during drive

Bellie Thomas
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TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

Of late, BBMP's Bellandur ward's Assistant Engineer's office has been getting complaints from residents in and around Haralur Main Road, Junnasandra, and Sarjapur Road, that loads and loads of tractors come out there to dump building debris and garbage alongside the road and leave the spot as soon as residents come to question them.

Taking note of the complaints, the Assistant Engineer, BBMP, Bellandur office, Chethan KM, on Wednesday, conducted a special drive to book the tractors that were dumping building debris and garbage. The authorities filed complaints with the Bellandur police who had booked six cases and seized six tractors and have detained 10 people in total who drove and worked on these tractors for questioning.

As the drive started around 10.30 am, the assistant engineer spotted a tractor dumping debris and garbage near the Springfield Apartment on Haralur Road, and detained Kempegowda and Ramanji and handed them over to the Bellandur police. The Bellandur police detained them until the next tractor came to dump debris and garbage on Sarjapur Road near the bus s top at Doddakannelli around 11 am, and detained three people identified as Rajappa, Prasharum, and Mallikarjun. Had the detained persons let off, they would have informed the others and alerted them not to come to the spot to dump debris, BBMP officials said.

BBMP on a lookout for those who try to offload debris on road

> **We will conduct such drives and keep a tab on such misdemeanours adopted by real estate companies**
>
> –BBMP official

Later, around 11.30 am, Chethan's subordinates spotted another tractor on the Halanayakanahalli Road in Someshwara Layout and seized the tractor and detained two men identified as Ananda and Ravi Nayak. The AE then seized a tractor that was dumping debris and garbage near the Junnasandra bus stop in Junnasandra around 12.50 pm and one Hanumath was detained. Lastly, the AE's subordinates spotted a tractor near Ozone Evergreen Apartment on Haralur Road and seized the vehicle. Tractor driver Huliraju was detained and he is being questioned about where he was transporting the debris from. "We will conduct such drives and keep a tab on such misdemeanours adopted by real estate companies and we will issue notices to them," said a senior BBMP official.

Ruckus at office

A man claiming to be a reporter and his associate are accused of barging into the Bengaluru Town Planning Office at the BBMP office in Yelahanka and hurling abuses at all the officials on Wednesday afternoon.

Based on a complaint from an Assistant Engineer, Shalini R, the Amruthahalli police have booked the man identified by the cops as Thomas Pushparaj and his associate under IPC section 353 - assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty, 504 - intentional insult and 506 - criminal intimidation. "We are yet to verify if he is working with some media portal though he claims to be a reporter, and both he and his associate are yet to be arrested," a police officer told BM. This is not the first time Pusparaj had come to their office and created ruckus, he had done the same on June 10, the officer added.

In her complaint to the Amruthahalli police, AE Shalini stated that the accused had come to the officer around 2 pm on June 10, and claiming that he was a reporter. He is said to have accused the officials at the office of using private employees to get their office work done. Soon after the ruckus, Shalini brought the matter to the notice of her superiors at the office.

On June 29, Pushparaj is said to have come with an associate to the office of the Assistant Director, Town Planning in Yelahanka Zone, pushed the door open, and began hurling abuses at all the officials. As this was the second time, the government officials filed a formal complaint.

CRIME FILES

How polluting are BMTC buses

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to experts, since most of the BS-III-compliant buses were procured by the corporation between 2006 and 2013, the majority of the fleet is older than 11 years, but still plying.

"All BS-III and BS-II-compliant buses are older than 11 years and spewing plumes of smoke daily, still running on roads, deteriorating the city's air quality. BMTC is not even penalised for polluting the environment. However, a private vehicle with this level of emission will have to pay a fine," said Mitali Bhasin of Jhatkaa.org.

However, BMTC officials said an exception to the scrapping practice is taken when vehicles are in good condition.

"We scrap buses only if they have covered 8.5 lakh km or are older than 11 years. However, if the vehicle is in good condition, we cannot scrap it even if it has completed the above-said distance or is older than 11 years. With the current financial crisis, we cannot scrap a good vehicle," said a BMTC official.

The density of smoke emitted by a BS-III-compliant bus is 65 Hartridge Smoke Unit (HSU); for a BS-IV vehicle, it is 20 HSU and for a BS-VI bus, it is 5 HSU. As per the transport department's recommendations, each BMTC bus has to undergo an online emission test every six months.

Density of smoke emitted by a BS-III-compliant bus is 65 Hartridge Smoke Unit (HSU); for a BS-IV vehicle, it is 20 HSU and for a BS-VI bus, it is 5 HSU

According to Dr Pratima Singh, research scientist, Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), BMTC's fleet complying with BS-III and BS-IV standards is a huge challenge to Bengaluru's pollution level.

"These buses are surely a big challenge to the city's pollution level. BMTC should bring in the fleet of EV and CNG buses and must phase out all old and diesel-run buses. As many as 6,500-odd BS-III and BS-IV buses are a huge number. They are the major contributors to the high level of PM2.5 black carbon, NOx and SOx. These buses should be phased out as early as possible," said Pratima.

However, as per the BMTC, focus should be shifted to other vehicles on the road that form the bigger chunk of fossil fuel-based vehicles.

"Compared with 80 lakh vehicles in Bengaluru, only 6,512 BMTC buses are running, which puts its share of emissions 'not even at 0.08%'. All BMTC buses in service are checked monthly and emission norms are followed diligently. In case a BS-III vehicle is found to be above this emission limit, we bring it down before putting it back on the road. What about trucks, two-wheelers, autos and other private vehicles? These vehicles are not even maintained," said the BMTC official.

Experts disagree

"We recently carried out an emission inventory study for Bengaluru. In the study, we have mentioned that while heavy commercial vehicles, comprising buses, trucks, tractors, and such, form only 0.3 percent of all the vehicles on road, they are responsible for around 57% of the total emission load. Thus, while the number of these vehicles might be lower, the pollution from them is higher," said Pratima.

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I, Aravinda S/o Venkatesha Hathwar R/o MJR Clique Hercules,Flat No. E-404, Gollahalli Main Road, Electronic City Phase-1, Bengaluru 560100 have changed my name to ARAVINDA HATHWAR affidavit Dt.01/07/2022 Notary K.V Mani, B'luru

I, ANKITHA JAIN S w/o Pankaj Dungarwal Residing at No.20, 14th Cross, 12th Main, Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027 have changed my name to ANKITHA JAIN vide affidavit dated 30.6.2022 Sworn before Notary Mahesha J.J, Bengaluru for all purposes.

I Sadiq Ahmed Khan Thondebhavi Amjad S/o, Amjad Pasha T N R/o, No 87, 3rd Main Road,Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Bengaluru 560032, Karnataka have Changed My Name to Sadiq Ahmed Khan for all purposes.

I, MYRA AGARWAL R/a Flat #A 702,Mantri Espana, Kariyamma Agrahara, Bellandur, Bengaluru- 560103 have changed my name to MYRRA NILESH AGARWAL vide affidavit dated 01.07.2022 before notary K.V. Mani, Bengaluru

I Leticia Louis Xavier S/O, A S Louis Xavier R/o Secondary Examination 2020. Roll Number 18114578 Cbse. S 102, Pioneer Paradise Jp Nagar 7 Phase, Bangalore 560078 have changed my name to Leticia Xavier for all purposes.

I, Sourabh Saxena S/o Om Prakash Saxena R/o RE-207, Purva Riviera, Marathahalli, Bengaluru 560037 have changed my name to SAURABH SAXENA affidavit Dt.01/07/2022 notary A.R Muneer Ahmed, Bluru

I, Chandar Sekhar S/o Ankaiah No.126, 6th Main Road, Banashankari 3rd stage, 3rd Phase, 1st Block, Bengaluru 560085 have changed my name B.S CHANDRASHEKAR affidavit Dt.01/07/2022 notary, K.V Mani, B'luru

I, PREETI .R. JAIN D/o Rajesh Kumar Agd 24yrs R/at 59, Magadi MN RD Agrahara Dasarahalli, Blr-79 HV Changed my name as PREETI JAIN vide affidavit dt:29/6/22 Sworn To Before Notary Sakalesh Blr

I Alagurani Nagappan W/O, Nagappan Ramanathan R/o 749, 3rd Main, RkTownship, yarandahalli, bengaluru. Pin:560105 have changed my name to Alagurani Sokkalingam for all purposes

I, Sujayammanny.V R/o No.1023, 2nd main 2nd cross, MC Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru 560040 have changed my name to SUJAYAMMANNI. V affidavit Dt.01/07/2022 notary K.V Mani, Bluru

I Muralidhar Nayak S/o Nayak Mohandas R/o # 9 ,Nayak's Nilaya, 4th cross, Nagappa Street, Palace Guttahalli, Bangalore-560003 have changed my name to Muralidhar Nayak K for all purposes.

I, Anshu Priya Gaurav R/o Flat No. E-303, Arvind Sporcia Tanishandra Bengaluru-560077 have changed my minor son's name from Shaury Sinha to Avyan Gaurav for all purposes.

I, Saravanan S R/o 11168, Prestige Shantiniketan, Whitefield Main Rd, Bangalore changed my name as Saravanan Shanmugham

I Mary Thomas W/O Sunil K E R/o F-42, No.3 11th cross 16th main B.T.M 1st stage Bangalore-560029 have changed my to Raji sunil

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Hospital room charges may get costlier: GST council

Five per cent GST may be levied on room fees which cost Rs 5,000 and more per day

Folks, you may have to shell out more for healthcare as the tax rates on certain goods and services are said to increase from July 18. A decision taken by the GST council said that GST of 5 per cent may be applied on hospital room charges (excluding ICU), in medical institutes where room charges were above Rs 5,000 a day.

Earlier, the tax rate was nil as healthcare services are exempt from GST.

While this has not been finalised yet, hospital officials pointed out that patients will indirectly be hit with the increase in prices.

With the pandemic, the cost of hospitals has increased, from beds to equipment. Private hospitals have been charging patients even for doctors' safety equipment that is being used daily.

Back in 2015, luxury tax on hospitals was applied. Most of the hospital management was against the move and it was subsequently cancelled. However, if an additional 5% GST is introduced, it would be like reintroducing the luxury tax, added officials.

"The move by the government is like reintroducing the luxury tax via GST where patients will be indirectly hit. Certain hospitals might be able to bear the burden of GST but most private hospitals may not be able to do so. Patients will suffer as most of our population is from the middle class and economically strapped," said Nagendra S, General Manager, Finance, Aster RV Hospital.

Ready for costlier hospital stay?

Hospital heads pointed out that not giving input credit to the hospital will lead to losses for them and by increasing the GST, it will add to the burden on the patients.

> **"The move is like reintroducing luxury tax via GST where patients will be indirectly hit. Certain hospitals might be able to bear the burden** –Nagendra S, Aster RV

Dr Jagadish Hiremath, Chairman at Aasra Group of Hospitals said, "Healthcare sector is suffering because we are not receiving any inputs for the big chunk of GST that we are already paying while procuring any equipment. It would be good for hospitals if in any form, the government can compensate us by allowing us to charge GST and compensate for us in GST. We prefer this to be included under GST so that there can be a uniformity. We would also be able to get the benefits of GST then."

Dr Ravindra R, Director of Suguna Hospital, added that this is still in the proposal state and hasn't been accepted yet. "Earlier, we had VAT, which was removed. If the input credit is now given to us, then patients will have to bear the brunt, where they have to pay more. As stakeholders, we haven't been consulted and our opinions not taken. We are discussing this internally and will take it up once the proposal is finalised."

ADMISSION OPEN TIMES interac

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GET NOTICED TIMES interac

Hills are calling, but road is crumbling

Repair work has not even begun on Nandi Road leading up to Chamundi Hills that was damaged after heavy rain last year

Nandi Road has developed too many cracks and at some places eroded soil has collected on the road

Every year, the onset of the monsoon brings with it a sense of fear for the pilgrims and tourists who visit Chamundi Hills. Landslides are a common occurrence, especially during the rains, and despite much being written and discussed, not much is done to fix the issue.

Last year, Nandi Road leading up to the hills collapsed due to heavy rains. The repair work has not started yet and to make things worse, the monsoon has entered the state. Local residents and tourists fear more landslides and the work using earth movers may become more difficult and may lead to more collapses.

The road has collapsed twice and has many cracks. The collapsed road which leads to Nandi was a regular route for the commuters in car, minibuses and two-wheelers. Now, due to the ban on vehicles on the road, the vehicles have stopped plying. So, those who climb the steps only can visit Nandi Hills. Pilgrims are unhappy with this, calling for urgent measures to repair the road.

In some places, the soil and rocks have also dislodged. This created soil erosion in the hill. This may also lead to huge landslides and environmentalists have urged officials to start work which is environment-friendly.

On October 21, 2021, there was a landslide due to heavy rains; on November 5, the road developed a 50-metre crack, and half the road collapsed. With this, the road was closed with barricades for commuters' safety.

Meanwhile, the officials from the Public Works Department (PWD) said once the tender process is completed, work will start soon. "We are well prepared with all the equipment and materials; we will start work after the completion of the tender process," said an official.

Ex-Mayor BL Bhyrappa said, "Nandi Road has a crack for one kilometre; it is difficult to repair it completely. For that, it is necessary to dig the hill in this area. So, installing a hanging bridge can solve the problem temporarily. This will also be helpful for the environment." **– Prakash VL**

Delhi HC notice to police on Zubair's plea
The Delhi HC issued notice to Delhi Police on a plea by Alt News co-founder Mohammed Zubair challenging a lower court order allowing police custody and seizure of laptop

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Saturday, July 2, 2022
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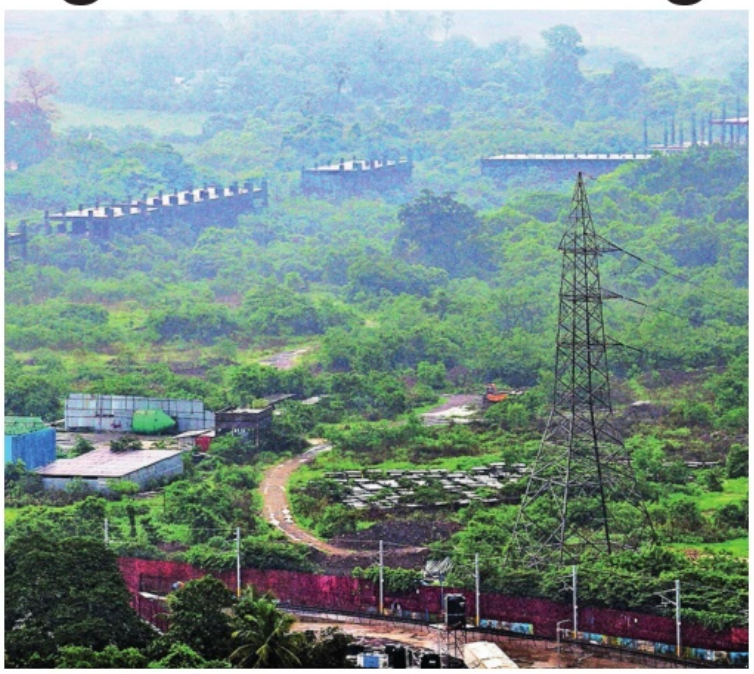
Don't stab Mumbai in heart, says Thackeray

Ex-CM urges new govt not to push on with plan to build Metro shed in Aarey


The Aarey Metro Car Shed

#Mumbai
The first policy initiative of the new Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to revive the contentious Mumbai Metro car-shed in the eco-sensitive Aarey Colony forests kicked off a major controversy here on Friday.

In the first cabinet meeting after their swearing-in ceremony late on Thursday, Shinde and Fadnavis decided to give a push to various infrastructure projects, including taking measures to bring back the Mumbai Metro-3 car-shed project to the Aarey Colony jungles.

Former Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, his son and ex-Environment Minister Aditya Thackeray had scrapped the project and shifted it to the Kanjurmarg salt pans site -- which the then Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party had opposed strongly.

Later, following issues pertaining to the Kanjurmarg land ownership raised by the Centre, the car-shed for the crucial 33-km long Metri line remains stuck in litigation.

Raising the issue on Friday, the Shiv Sena President called upon the new regime "not to vent its anger against him on the people of Mumbai" on the issue.

"With folded hands I request them on behalf of the people of Mumbai not to bring back the Metro car-shed back to Aarey Colony forests... It was in the interest of Mumbai, please cancel the proposal to save the city's environment. There is a lot of wildlife there, and I am feeling very sad about this," Thackeray appealed to Shinde-Fadnavis.

Referring to Kanjurmarg land given by the erstwhile Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), he said that even that stretch of land belongs to the people and must be put to good use for the masses. Congress State President Nana Patole warned that shifting the car-shed to Mumbai would be detrimental to the health of the people and the city.

He pointed out how the environmentalists and the people of Mumbai had strongly protested the car-shed at Aarey Colony and even staged demonstrations against the earlier BJP government headed by Fadnavis in October 2019 when over 2,000 trees were chopped down in a single night using the police force.

Taking cognisance of the barrage of criticism from the opposition and greens, Fadnavis this evening seemed to have softened his stance and said the government will "respect" Thackeray's sentiments while deciding on the contentious matter. **– IANS**

DRDO's autonomous plane's maiden flight marks big milestone

#Bengaluru
The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Friday successfully carried out the maiden flight of the indigenously developed unmanned aircraft at Chitradurga, Karnataka.

Operating in a fully autonomous mode, the aircraft exhibited a perfect flight and a smooth touchdown, an official press release said.

The flight marked a major milestone in proving critical technologies towards development of future unmanned aircraft and is a significant step towards self-reliance in such strategic defence technologies, the statement read.

The unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) is designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru, a premier research laboratory of DRDO, the statement said.

"It is powered by a small turbofan engine. The airframe, undercarriage and entire flight control and avionics systems used for the aircraft were indigenously developed," according to the press release.

The unmanned aircraft takes off at Chitradurga

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has congratulated DRDO for its feat, said the statement.

It is a major achievement towards autonomous aircraft and would pave the way for 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' in terms of critical military systems, Singh was quoted as saying. **– PTI**

Centre warns edtech companies against unfair trade practices

#New Delhi
The Central government on Friday warned edtech companies against unfair trade practices.

In a meeting with self-regulatory body India Edtech Consortium (IEC), which runs under the aegis of Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), Consumer Affairs Secretary, Rohit Kumar Singh, said that if self-regulation does not curb unfair trade practices, then stringent guidelines would require to be formulated for ensuring transparency. The meeting was attended by representatives of the IAMAI, along with IEC member companies including upGrad, BYJU'S, Unacademy, Vedantu, Great Learning, WhiteHat Jr, and Sunstone. The IEC comprises of Indian start-ups and represents 95 per cent of the Indian learner community.

During the meeting, issues pertaining to unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements for the Indian edtech sector figured prominently.

Firms urged to be transparent

Singh discussed ways to better manage consumer interests across India's edtech ecosystem.

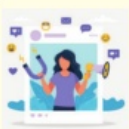
As part of the agenda, the members discussed the need to further enhance the Indian edtech ecosystem to better safeguard consumer interests, through seamless, transparent, and feasible offerings for consumers. **– IANS**

All changes you need to know about this month

From July 1, cryptocurrency sale transactions will have TDS of 1%

You cannot initiate mutual fund investments from a pool account

Gear up, July 31 is the last date to file tax returns for income of FY 22


Influencers will also be taxed on gifts and perks they have received

There will be penalty on rejected credit card standing payment orders

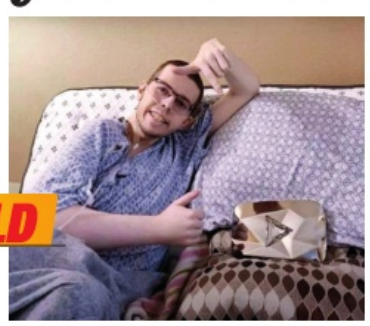
If you haven't linked PAN with Aadhar number do it as penalty is doubled

'Technoblade here. If you're watching this, I am dead'

#New Delhi
In heartbreaking news, popular Minecraft YouTuber Technoblade, who died from cancer at age 23, on Friday posted his last video on Google-owned platform with a message: "Hello everyone, Technoblade here. If you're watching this, I am dead."

Titled 'so long nerds,' the video on his YouTube channel, which has nearly 11 million subscribers, was anchored by his father.

"Hello everyone, Technoblade here. If you're watching this, I am dead. Thank you all for supporting my content over the years. If I had another 100 lives, I think I would choose to be Technoblade again every single time, as those were the happiest years of my life," said the YouTuber.



He apologised for "selling out so much in the past year" by offering merchandise but admitted that because of this, his siblings will be able to go to college.

"Well, if they want to. I don't want to put any dead brother peer pressure on them." Alex was "having a hard time doing the writing" due to the effects of his illness. "I don't think he said everything he wanted to say, but I think he got the main points. He finished that up and then he was done. He lived about another eight hours after that," Technoblade's father told The Verge. In a video posted in August 2021, Technoblade revealed that he'd been diagnosed with cancer. He joked in the video about how his "chemotherapy arc is going to be fantastic for content". "Nobody took the news worse than my health insurance provider - they've been inconsolable for weeks," he said. **– IANS**

HEALTH TIP: Bananas, nuts and shellfish contain potassium that helps regulate blood pressure and muscle function

Milk, eggs and fortified cereals are the best dietary sources of calcium

Take a write turn

4 ways to correct calligraphy mistakes

Are you someone who is really excited about different strokes, flourishes, beautiful forms of the letters and can't wait to do calligraphy every day? Calligraphy is a wonderful hobby to nurture and today we are sharing with you four effective and simple ways to correct your calligraphy mistakes. Let's get started !

1 Know Your Tools

There are various styles of calligraphy available out there & you might be using different pens which are not suited for your style of writing. With various types of calligraphy tools available in the market, you might get confused & start with wrong tools.

It's essential to get proper knowledge or learn from good calligraphy teachers to understand different tools & their functionalities. This is something very fundamental. Knowing & using good quality supplies is important for good writing experience. By choosing the correct tool you can start your calligraphy journey comfortably and you will be able to produce best results from the beginning.

2 Master Basic Strokes

Oh ! I cannot tell you how important it is to practise basic strokes. The biggest mistake every beginner makes is to write words directly without understanding the basics.

Any script, any style of calligraphy is made up of some structured rules and basic forms. If you follow them by heart & if you master them, writing words & sentences becomes far more easy. Keep in mind that control over your basic strokes is a key to master calligraphy. If you dedicate a few minutes to practising basic strokes consistently, you will see huge improvements in your calligraphy.

3 Mindful Practice

You might already know that daily practice will improve your calligraphy skills. But if you are not practicing mindfully then it is of no use. If you don't know what you are doing then it's just a waste of your valuable time, papers & inks.

I always tell my students to have some goal while doing practice. You might want to work on ovals one day, or on ascending and descending loops the other day or you might want to spend a whole week just getting better at your compound curve. It's totally up to you.

You will improve faster by having a particular goal & then by working towards it. Of course not every single line or stroke is gonna be perfect however you will see immense growth in your writing with focused attention and patience. Your practice hours will be filled with enthusiasm rather than frustration. So set your time aside for mindful practice & enjoy every bit of it.

4 Slow Down

Calligraphy takes time ! I know Instagram is full of many breathtaking videos of calligraphy and you might think that calligraphy is very fast and easy. But most of these videos are speeded up because of the time limit of posting.

Fast writing looks haphazard instead slowing down will help you to focus more on your strokes, angles, spacing & connections. You will enjoy writing more as you can experience and feel your breath going up and down with every little stroke. It's super meditative. Writing slowly definitely helps to get precision in your writing.

That's it!! I hope you find these tips helpful and I really wish you improve in your calligraphy journey with these simple steps.

—Pooja Bhagwat, Founder of Ink n Bliss, calligraphy & design studio

MIRRORLIGHTS

Five Gender-Neutral Life Skills That Every Child Should Know

In those days, in an Indian household, the girl was expected to get water or serve food to the elders, whereas the boy do not participate in housework. The situation is improving, yet many remain unaware of the importance of imparting life skills to both genders. It is essential for parents to treat their sons and daughters equally at home. "The need of the hour is to teach fundamental life skills to everyone, regardless of gender. They can be moulded easily during their developmental years; it is up to parents to ensure they instil the correct skills that will aid children in the future," suggests Dr. Pallavi Rao Chaturvedi, Parenting coach, who offers a few gender-neutral skills that kids should be aware of.

Cooking: Irrespective of gender, cooking is a life skill that children need to be participative. Understanding how to put together a basic meal is a skill that will be of immense help in the long run.

Organising: Keeping things tidy and orderly, tidying up after playtime, and helping with household chores in tiny ways can teach kids responsibility and ownership. Parents should avoid coddling their children and instead encourage them to become self-sufficient.

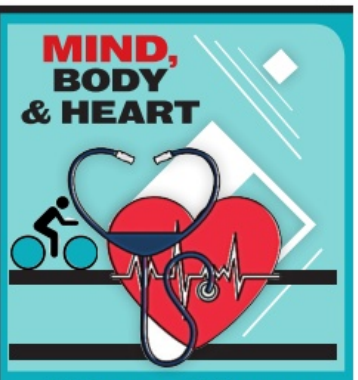
Swimming: Swimming is a skill that will always be beneficial for safety and health. Enrolling youngsters in classes and ensuring that they acquire the skill will benefit them in the future.

Financial responsibility: Teaching children the art of money management is one of the greatest gifts a parent can give their child. Educating kids on the value of each penny and the necessity of saving for a rainy day is an essential skill that will aid in their development into responsible individuals.

Self-defence: Basic self-defence skills are necessary as a protection tool for children. This will boost their confidence and help them tread carefully where required. Teaching children how to hold themselves and take action should there be any unforeseen circumstances goes a long way in ensuring safety and security.

Health and Hygiene: Teaching children to take care of their health and to practise good hygiene is important for their personality development. Encouraging healthy eating habits and cleanliness from an early age will discipline them and increase their self-esteem.

—Kayalvizhi Arivalan



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a woman in my late-30s and have one child with my husband. We struggled for years to conceive and I'd never go through fertility treatment again.
However, I'd love another child and a sibling for our daughter, so I've mentioned adoption to my husband, but he won't discuss it.
He keeps saying we've been through enough over the past few years and that we should be thankful for what we have, and we can give our daughter everything. I think he's being selfish and it's causing a rift.
I'd love your opinion.

COLEEN SAYS

Is he being selfish or just honest? Adoption is a challenging process and when you take on a child you need to provide an extra layer of care and emotional support.
You have to be resilient individually and as a couple, and you both need to be 100% committed in order to cope with the challenges and the responsibility.
If one of you isn't, then you won't make it through the approval stage. Social workers don't want adoptions to break down, so the process is thorough.
However, I think this should be a discussion with your husband rather than him just dismissing the idea out of hand.
If you had an initial chat with a social worker, did some research and spoke to adoptive parents, then you'd be in a better place to make a decision.
It's an absolutely wonderful and incredibly rewarding thing to do, but you owe it to a child to be ready to meet their needs.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

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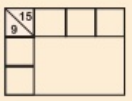
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

$(1/16^{0.25}) = ?$

Kakuro

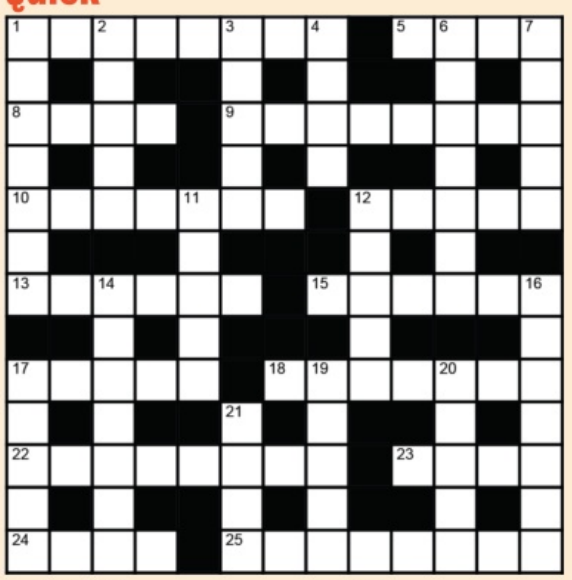
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas



for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.

Quick



ACROSS

1 A drink (8)
5 Employed (4)
8 Multiplex at Garuda Mall (4)
9 Cinemas (8)
10 Figurative language (7)
12 Prepared, nearby or willing? (5)
13 Outer edge (6)
15 Foundation author Isaac ___ (6)
17 Inversion (5)
18 Injurious or detrimental (7)
22 Bullfighter (8)
23 Filled to the ___ : full to overflowing? (4)
24 Speak a certain way (4)
25 In the present times (8)

DOWN

1 Sheriff's officer (7)
2 Orchestral instrument (5)
3 Following (5)
4 Those female sheep (4)
6 Scornful or ironic language (7)
7 Having dark skin (5)
11 Rowing crew (5)
12 Part of a step (5)
14 ____ one's life : takes a policy from LIC? (7)
16 Big books (7)
17 To such time (5)
19 Archer's missile (5)
20 Terra ___ : dry land, mother earth ? (5)
21 Arabian gulf (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS T

RBF GVDRB VO N EVVA XY RV EF TFNYPDFQ EL GBNR LVP JNW JNDDL NGNL ODVT XR.

Linemaro

Can you recommend a good bank? I have been saving all my love for you

Mindchow

There is no such thing as conversation. There are intersecting monologues, that is all

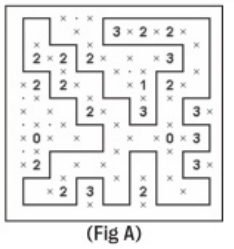
Joke of the day

My grandfather is eighty and still doesn't need glasses .... he drinks straight out of the bottle

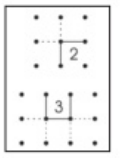
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

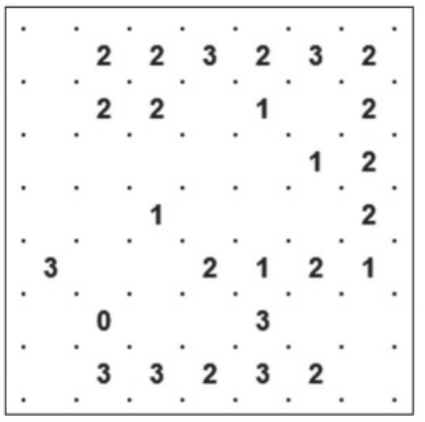


(Fig B) Not Allowed

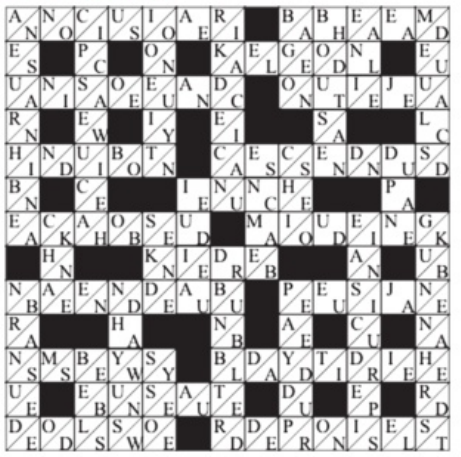
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



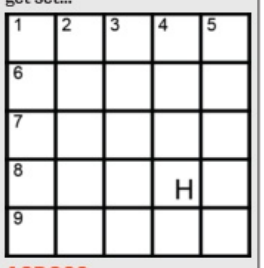
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

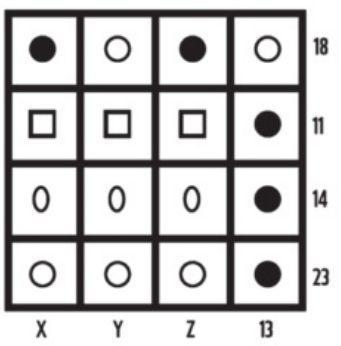
1 At vas; 6 Barer; 7 Raged; 8 Thy IC; 9 Usual

DOWN

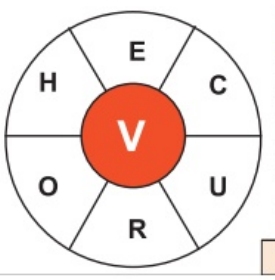
1 Grail; 2 True V; 3 Caaba; 4 Had us; 5 St rye

Mensapuzzle

What are X, Y and Z?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	3	9				1	2	
4								5
5			3		1			7
	5		1		2		6	
		7	8		9	5		
	2		6		3		8	
1			2		5			4
3								6
	7	5				9	1	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 28
5 7 7 9

Medium = 10
2 4 6 6

Hard = 31
5 8 9 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

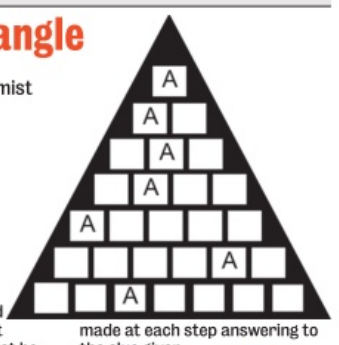
Differences: 1. Back of chair is taller. 2. Paper on desk is moved. 3. Map is reversed. 4. Desk is wider. 5. Curtain is wider. 6. Collar is showing.

Riddler

What letter comes next letter in this series?
A E F H I ___

Alpha triangle

1 First letter
2 Silver for the chemist
3 Dawdle
4 Strong wind
5 Sprightly
6 Amiable
7 Oozing out

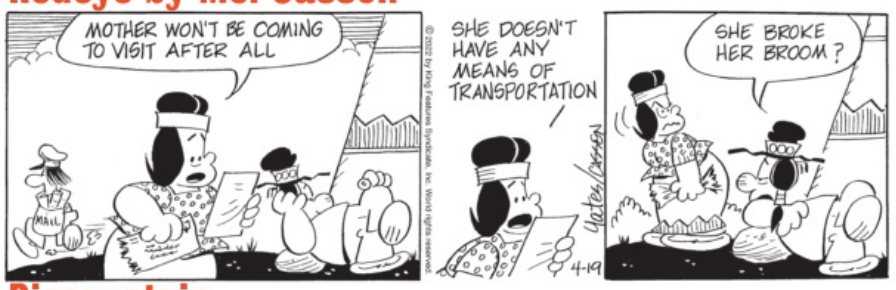


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip

He fell in the forest and called for help, yet nobody heard a sound?
Dist. by King Features
BIZARRO.COM
©2022 BIZARRO STUDIOS
Wayno & Piraro
4-29-22

Diamond Lil

HEY, SURLI, WHAT'S ON MY SCHEDULE FOR TOMORROW?
LUNCH AT THE TACO TRUCK AT NOON
IS THAT ALL?
BLOATING AT ONE
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www.creators.com

Hart of the city

DEAN, I THINK THE BEST OPTION IS TO BE HONEST ABOUT NOT WANTING TO CHAT DURING YOUR HAIRCUT.
OKAY, BUT IF HE YELLS AT ME, I'M GONNA CRY, AND I'LL NEED SOME ICE CREAM TO RECOVER.
THAT'S A VERY FAIR DEAL.
OPEN
HEART OF THE CITY © 2022 ABCGEEK'S MCNEEL
@GCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

I JUST CAME BY TO SEE IF YOU NEEDED ANY HELP SETTING UP FOR YOUR VIRTUAL PANEL.
I THINK I'M GOOD, MINDY... I'VE GOT MY HALO LIGHT SET SO IT DOESN'T REFLECT IN MY GLASSES, MY CONDENSER MICROPHONE, AND MY BOOK AND CAT ON THE BOOKSHELF BEHIND ME.
AND I ADDED MY OWN TOUCH... A NICE CUP OF TEA WITH HONEY!
4-26
BATIUK & DAVIS
crankshaftcomic.com/books

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today is a good day for you. Your enthusiasm can be very high and may need to be regulated. Self-analysis will help you be more confident, which can increase your prestige in society. You will resolve many problems with the help of your communication skills. Investors are advised to avoid speculation before making investments. You may also plan for higher studies for a good career.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
You may not be able to enjoy your work life and family life too well today. You are advised to avoid arrogance and ego clashes with your spouse, or it may affect your emotional bonding. Problems in partnerships are likely to be resolved. Singles are advised to avoid rushing before making decisions related to marriage. With the help of your patience, you may come out of a messy situation.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be able to implement business plans successfully with the support of your juniors. You may be involved in some social or family get-together, which will boost your network. You are likely to go for short business-related trips, which may bring you benefits in the near future.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today is a good day, and your financial health is likely to be good too. You may get benefits from past investments. You will have control over your worthless expenditure, which can boost your savings. Lovebirds are advised to be polite in conversation with their partner, otherwise conflicts could arise.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be busy with issues related to siblings and relatives. You may plan to start a venture with the help of your siblings and network. You are likely to get an order which will boost your family business. Your network may help you complete your task successfully. Low effort can fetch smart gains.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today may not be a good day for you. You could be a victim of negative thoughts. Impatience and arrogance can push you back from making difficult decisions. Your life seems to stop somewhere. You may be in need of blessing from your elders, which might help you come back from the messy situation. Avoid making investments in dead assets. Lovebirds should avoid non-productive talk.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
While you may not begin your day at your most focused, you may gain control over this situation with the help of your elders. You can easily find resources that are important for the completion of a project. Your sources of income are likely to be increased, and your losses may be converted into profits. This can boost your financial health.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you can expect a big order from a new client, which will increase your liquidity in the business. You are likely to meet some influential person who will help you grow your business. Your bonding with the boss may become strong, and you can expect some promotions because of your hard work. Your prestige may be increased now.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you are blessed by your elders, which could make you patient in your thoughts. You are likely to be happy and calm. You may plan to visit some spiritual place for peace of mind. You may also donate some money to a spiritual place if you want. There may be some chances for overseas travel.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may feel dull. Health issues are likely to impact your day-to-day work. You could find yourself under some mysterious fear, which may make you sensitive and emotional. You are advised to avoid rash driving and adventure tours. You may be attracted to the occult. Chanting a mantra or visiting a spiritual place may bring some relief.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may enjoy time with family. You could also enjoy some romantic moments with your spouse, which will boost understanding between you. You are likely to spend money in buying some artefacts or household items to renovate your house. You may enjoy parties and events. You are advised to read documents carefully before making any investments in fixed assets.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel happy and energetic. You may explore and self-analyse, which can give you confidence. You may be likely to face any type of challenges well, which will make you fearless and courageous. You are advised to keep patience in terms of making financial decisions concerning your business. Lovebirds may share happy moments.

KIDZONE

Anoushka G, 10 Yeras, Vidya Niketan School

Kushagra Sharma, 11 Years, Shishya Beml Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
= (1/1/16o.25)
= 16o.25
= 2

RIDDLER K. It's the series of capital letters without curves in alphabetical order.

QUOTE UNCODE
The worth of a book is to be measured by what you can carry away from it.

FAST FIVE

A	V	A	S	T
R	E	B	A	R
G	R	A	D	E
I	T	C	H	Y
L	U	A	U	S

BULL'S EYE
cove, cover, curve, hove, hover, over, rove, vouch, VOUCHER

STRIKE OUT

D	O	L	S	E	■	D	E	P	O	S	E	S	■	■
E	■	E	N	S	U	E	■	U	■	E	■	R	■	■
S	M	E	W	S	■	B	A	Y	T	R	E	E	■	■
A	■	A	■	B	A	■	U	■	U	■	N	■	■	■
B	A	N	D	E	A	U	■	P	U	S	A	N	■	■
■	H	■	■	K	E	R	B	■	N	■	U	■	■	■
E	C	H	O	E	D	■	A	I	D	I	N	G	■	■
N	■	C	■	I	N	C	H	■	A	■	■	■	■	■
I	D	I	O	T	■	A	S	C	E	N	D	S	■	■
R	■	W	■	I	■	I	■	S	■	L	■	■	■	■
U	N	S	O	U	N	D	■	O	U	I	J	A	■	■
E	■	P	■	N	■	A	L	G	O	L	■	E	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

QUICK

L	I	S	P	■	N	O	W	A	D	A	Y	S	■	■
I	■	E	■	E	■	O	■	M	■	E	■	■	■	■
T	O	R	E	A	D	O	R	■	B	R	I	M	■	■
U	■	N	■	A	■	R	■	I	■	U	■	■	■	■
U	P	S	E	T	■	H	A	R	M	F	U	L	■	■
■	■	■	■	H	■	■	■	E	■	■	■	O	■	■
F	R	I	N	G	E	■	A	S	I	M	O	V	■	■
F	■	I	■	■	S	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
I	M	A	G	E	R	Y	■	R	E	A	D	Y	■	■
L	■	L	■	E	■	S	■	C	■	K	■	■	■	■
I	N	O	X	■	T	H	E	A	T	R	E	S	■	■
A	■	I	■	F	■	W	■	A	■	U	■	■	■	■
B	E	V	E	R	A	G	E	■	U	S	E	D	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
X is 16; Y is 2!; Z is 16.
To justify the right hand vertical row with the top row, ● must be 2.
Substituting this in the remaining horizontal rows, it becomes obvious that the remaining row (DIAGRAM) must be 7. The values for X, Y and Z now become clear.

SUDOKU

7	3	9	5	6	4	1	2	8
4	6	1	7	2	8	3	9	5
5	8	2	3	9	1	6	4	7
8	5	3	1	7	2	4	6	9
6	1	7	8	4	9	5	3	2
9	2	4	6	5	3	7	8	1
1	9	6	2	3	5	8	7	4
3	4	8	9	1	7	2	5	6
2	7	5	4	8	6	9	1	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
A, Ag, Lag, Gale, Agile, Genial, Leaking.

GO FIGURE
Easy
9 + 7 + 7 + 5 = 28
Hard
5 x 9 – 6 – 8 = 31

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 16, Issue No 6 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/22411 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018 and printed by him at Fourth Estate Ltd, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Road, Bengaluru 560099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru 560 018. Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Big miss– Gauhar Khan revealed that the biggest project she lost out on was 'Slumdog Millionaire'. She said she met Danny Boyle and did five rounds of auditions but, Boyle reportedly told her that he can't place her in the film as she didn't speak like she was from India

NOT HERE FOR PITY

Kubbra Sait recently opened up about penning the incident of her molestation in one of the chapters of her memoir, 'Open Book'.

In an interaction with Zoom Digital, the actress said, "Initially, when I was writing it, this was the chapter that took about 3 days. In my opinion, this was a long time frame. I did not want a pity party. is over, look at where I am today, there will be oppressors all along the way, They will do everything they can to make you small and want to make you realise you are not good enough."

She added, "You are taught to give into these oppressions, but I think writing this was about literally forgiving myself for not knowing what to do. What I could not have done, and I did not do it and it is okay." Kubbra went on to say, "I was not writing to showcase a monster. I was not writing for the person to read and come and apologise to me. I am over it. He does not define me anymore. It is not something I hold so close to my heart that I will not be willing to revisit it," Kubbra opines, adding, "The purpose of writing that incident was not to tell the world that I was a sad soul. We are all sad in such a situation, but I am miles away from that situation now. I am looking at it from an outsider's perspective, I was not looking to make it right."

Kubbra says, the incident, though difficult, also keeps on reminding her what an incredible journey she has had. "Reach out to people and they are willing to help. And realise that the world is better than that one person who made it bad," she concluded. **—ETimes**

Sushmita recalls when Mahesh Bhatt insulted her acting skills

Riding high on win at the Miss Universe pageant in 1994, Sushmita Sen was set to debut in Bollywood with no prior acting experience. She bagged a film with Mahesh Bhatt and 1996 release 'Dastak' became her debut project.

Recently, Sushmita opened up about her experience on the sets and how filmmaker Bhatt had 'publicly attacked' her. Speaking to Twinkle Khanna, Sushmita shared, "He is a fabulous director, I will give him that because he broke an ambition in front of 40 media people and 20 production guys, publicly attacking me. I started crying, 'I told you I can't act, why you called me for this, I don't know how to act.' He's like, what have you brought to me, playing Miss Universe like this on camera. She can't act to save her life.'" Sushmita added that she was furious and walked off the set. "He tried to hold my hand and I just snapped it and told him, 'No, you don't talk to me like that.' I was walking away and he grabbed it again and said, 'That's anger! Go back and give it.' And I did," Sushmita added. The actress went on to praise Mahesh Bhatt for his skills as a filmmaker. **— ETimes**

Why Elizabeth Olsen hasn't seen 'Doctor Strange'

Hollywood actor Elizabeth Olsen, who was last seen as Wanda Maximoff aka Scarlet Witch in Marvel's 'Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness', revealed that she has still not seen the film.

As per Variety, during her recent appearance on 'The Tonight Show' Olson said that a cold prevented her from watching the movie at its premiere, and then later she refused to watch the watermarked screener Disney sent her as a backup because it was just too "distracting." "I'm not one of those [actors who don't watch her own movies]. I'm one of those people who like to study something so I can figure out how to make it better. But I had a cold during the premiere and I didn't want to sit through it. And so, I asked them to send a copy, and it had my name on it and it had the time that I was watching it, and I didn't want to watch it like that," Olsen said. She added, "My name was on it and the exact time and date. It's just distracting." **— ANI**

For classes and masses

BAIRAGEE

3 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Vijay Milton
- **ACTORS** Dr Shiva Rajkumar, Dhananjay, Prithvi Ambar, Anjali, Yasha Shivakumar, Shashikumar
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 134 minutes

The movie Bairagee begins with a theatre troupe led by Shivappa (Dr Shiva Rajkumar) performing a traditional dance in a village when a few miscreants create problems and a lecherous police officer (Vinod Kumar) embarrasses one of the female artists (Anu Prabhakar). Shivappa, as is his wont, beats the police officer and lands up behind bars.

After serving his term, Shivappa gets shelter at a police station. He happens to meet Vathapi (Pruthvi Ambar) who has a crush on Shobitha (Yasha Shivakumar). As fate would have it, Karna (Dhananjay), the chairman of a taluk panchayat, falls in love with Shobitha. Karna invites a minister (Sharath Lohitashwa) to a function where Shivappa and others were assigned to perform on the stage.

However, the minister, makes a pass on a girl but a teacher (Anjali) saves the girl. What happens to the teacher and Shivappa is the climax.

As far as the performance of the artists is concerned, Dr Shiva Rajkumar is at his best. His energy and enthusiasm in dance and action scenes are amazing. He is at his best in scenes filled with emotion and sentiment. His dialogue delivery and body language are superb.

Dhananjay, who is sharing the screen for the second time with Dr Shiva Rajkumar, has acted well. His performance, as a cunning and ambitious politician, deserves a pat on the back. Dhananjay acted along with Dr Shiva Rajkumar in the Kannada movie Tagaru. Bairagee is the second movie for him with Dr Shiva Rajkumar.

Sharath Lohitashwa is convincing as a lecherous and corrupt politician. Sharath Kumar and Vinod Kumar as police officers have provided good support.

Anjali and Yasha Shivakumar have no scope to showcase their acting skills as their roles are too brief. Prithvi Ambar has also acted well.

Bairagee is the 50th movie for Anoop Seelin as a music director. Among the songs, the Rhythm of Shivappa is the best

. The choreographer and music director deserves appreciation for this song which showcases Dr Shiva Rajkumar's energy and foot-tapping movements. Director Vijay Milton, who makes his debut as a director in Sandalwood with this movie, has done an excellent job.

It is sure to leave the audience happy as they leave the theatre.

—Y Maheswara Reddy